

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Hiroki Moriyama

Examiner: Erick J. Rekstad

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-070241, dated March 21, 2001, together with English-language Abstract and corresponding U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0025789 A1, to Saito et al., dated February 6, 2003;
2. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2000-137172, dated May 16, 2000, together with English-language Abstract and corresponding U.S. Patent No. 6,985,170 B1, issued to Tsuyuki, dated January 10, 2006; and

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC FILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent & Trademark Office via Electronic Filing through the United States Patent and Trademark Office e-business website, on March 7, 2008.

Dated: March 7, 2008


Thomas Spinelli

3. Japanese Patent Publication No. 2001-029313, dated February 6, 2001, together with English-language Abstract.

The references were cited in a Search Report received from the European Patent Office, dated February 11, 2008. Applicant is submitting copies of the above-cited references required by 37 C.F.R. 1.98 (a)(2)(i) and (ii), together with a copy of the Search Report. The relevance of the above-identified references has been described in the Search Report. Please note that the other reference cited in the Search Report, namely, U.S. Patent No. 5,885,208, dated March 23, 1999, issued to Moriyama, was previously submitted in Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement dated February 18, 2004.

The undersigned attorney hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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